

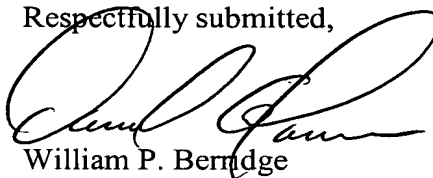
REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are pending in this Application. By this Preliminary Amendment, the Specification is amended to correct typographical errors. These amendments introduce no new matter as they are purely administrative and reflect what is shown in the Figures.

We also take this opportunity to submit an English language translation of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/438,324, originally filed in French on January 7, 2003, to which priority is claimed in this application.

Prompt and favorable examination on the merits are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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WPB:DAT/aaw

Attachment:

English language translation of U.S. Provisional Patent Appl. No. 60/438,324

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